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A
Brief Relation
OF A
A Wonderful Accident,
A
DISSOLUTION
OF THE
EARTH,
IN THE
Forest of CHARNWOOD,

About Two Miles from
LOUGHBOROUGH in *Leicestershire* ;
Lately Done, and Discovered, and Resorted to by
many People, both **OLD**, and **YOUNG**.

Published by two Lovers of Art, I. C. and I. W.

Sold by *Nath. Ponder* at the *Peacock* against the *Stocks*
Market. 1679.

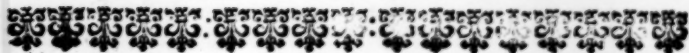


To the READER.

TO your ingenious Acceptation, we communicate these our Observations; not for filthy Lucre's sake, but for publick Satisfaction, and Truth's sake, (being provok'd thereto by some Persons of Quality:) considering the evil custom of erroneous Reports, and the fearful Rumors of ignorant People.

Read and judge charitably, without critical, or incredulous Censure; here is no wandering Prolixity, nor superfluous embellishment of Elegance, but a Striving into the proper Antithesis, appur'd with necessary Language. Be candid, not canine.

Vale.





THE
 DESCRIPTION
 OF THIS
 Wonderful BREACH.

THE Figure is almost circular, posited in a declining condition to the Horizon, it being the end or fragment of a hilly body, and contains about two Acres of ground. In its upper Divison, or primary Breach, the lower, or fallen part of it, lies a Yard (in some places) beneath the unmoved body: about three parts of this circular wonder! shews symptoms of the efficient cause; and the rest shews little, or no defect.

About three paces from the upper Breach, (or prime Divison) is a second Trench all down one Curve of the Circle, (afore said) and some second fractures on the other side these be over the prime Trench, or Breach lieth a narrow path way; the fallen part, whose Hypotenusal should fall upon the true Angular Point, (if it

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had.

had a Perpendicular Fall :) is subverted, and turned aside one foot, or more.

Between the Prime Breach, and second Curvery Fracture, the Earth shews a Perpendicular Decent, or Down-right Falling, because it doth thrust it self within its former bounds; on the other side of the Curve, which is higher Ground, the parts of the Earth fallen, and untallen, shews the distance of a Foot; which if it should be raised to a Parallel with its former Bounds, would differ half a Yard. The Sine for these Curves, is the Radius, or total Sine.

The lower part of the Periphery, (or Arch opposite to the Primary Breach) is rolled in, with an overshooting of his Bounds; as if it were driven, being light in substance, and stones (in some places thereof) thrusts forth themselves. This lower Curve contains about half the Radius for its versed Sine.

The unbreached part of the Periphery lies on the lower side of the Hill, in respect to the Hills ridge.

Some Persons judge WATER to be the cause of the BREACH; others, say WIND.

The latter we account proper, and consider both, in method and manner following.

1. *That it was not WATER.*
2. *That it was occasioned by Wind.*

REASONS

REASONS Negative, and Affirmative,
That it was not WATER.

Reas. 1. Water doth naturally run in a Channel, hasting forward, yea, and that where the Ground is level : but where the Ground descendeth through which it's to pass, there it forceth with a more direct course, and speedy stream ; not dilating it self, but rather drawing its Body more close into narrow Bounds.

Reas. 2. If Water had been the cause, then it should not have run in a round Figure, where the Hill is so much descending ; unless some artificial Pipes had been laid, which by the attractive power of the Air should draw the Water up again ; which if Fancy, or any persons Supposition should incline to, yet nevertheless it would have more powerful force in its Descent, than Ascent.

Reas. 3. Had Water (by its violent Billows) caus'd this Accident, it would either have done it by an Eruption outward, or a Dissolution of the Earth within, whereby the upper Superncies should have fallen in, or sunk within its counterterminal Sides. Indeed, some part of the Ground we allow to be depressed, but another part is not, but rather heightened, by rolling up. And how any thing should produce contrary effects to its nature, is marvellous !

Reas. 4. Had Water been the cause by demolishing the intrels of the Earth, then (running in a Channel) the Breach should be opposite to its Current ; and should from hence the current of Water be guest to fall where the Ground is fallen in all down one Curve of the Circle, then should not other Breach considerable appear from its Production, and the Earth would have been overshot or carry'd that way as the Current of Water past ; but the Earth is carried that way where no such falling in appears.

That

That it was WIND.

Reas. 1. Because it's so improbable to be Water ; but we judge Wind might be the Cause, inasmuch as it is its property to produce such Effects.

Reas. 2. For Wind being gathered, and freightned within the Bowels of the Earth, in order to an Earthquake, doth at last (by a volentile motion) break or burst forth in some place, or other, with great violence, rending, twilling in, and burying the earth within its own bowels: and in its motion, arching, flying, and searching about, might (very naturally) cause this Breach.

Reas. 3. Because the lower part of the Periphery which is overshot lies rolled in, hurr, or blown, daring from its swollen (or enlarged) Pores, Stones of a considerable weight: as also the root of a Tree, which is turned up in the Primary Breach.

Reas. 4. This being at the Front of a hilly Range, the Earthquake might come running along, and there disburden it self: and that moreover that it's free from Rocks, the Ground solvable; and consequently the Pores more easily extended.

Arguments

Arguments corresponding with the former Reasons.

1. *Arg.* If Water had been the cause, then from a slant Descent, or Ascent, the Breach would have shewed it self in a right lined, or serpentine Figure. and more especially in a right lined Figure, its Surface having Declination.

But this Breach is circular, and declining, contrary to a right lined, or serpentine Figure.

Therefore the Cause could not be Water.

2. *Arg.* Water was not the Cause, but rather Wind; for Wind is volotile, light, and forcible, and known to be of circular morion; where it's streighten'd, and wants liberty to disburden, or disperse it self into its own Element, it searches a passage, and by Operation, is (by Philosophers) accounted the cause of Earthquakes, it vents, and turns up the Earth in its delivery thence.

But, in this Breach the Figure is circular, diversly fractured, blown, or hurt up, writhed, which are the Symptoms of an Earthquake.

Ergo. Wind was the proper and true Cause.

- *Now*

Now it remains that we answer three Objections, and conclude.

1. Object. May some say, Had there been an Earthquake, why was it not discerned, felt, or discovered by one or other?

2. Object. Though Towns be not very high, yet there be some Inhabitants on the Forest high resident, and would not they have been sensible of some motion or noise which accompany Earthquakes?

3. Object. There be many Trees not far off, would not some of them have receiv'd prejudice by overturning, or Rocks where you suppose the windy commotion ran along.

Answers to the Objections.

Ans. 1. Had there been any Inhabitants dwelling on the said Hill, they might then have felt it.

Ans. 2. As for them that dwell high, they might very well be unsensible of noise, or motion, which might happen in the Night; and because Earthquakes (more general ones) have been experienced to operate in one part of the Town, and not in another part of the same; or in a various manner, in little distance; no wonder then if such Inhabitants perceive it not.

Ans. 3. As for Trees, how should they be prejudic'd, where the Earthquake came not? but had Trees stood where the Breach was made, they would probably then have been overthrow'n (as the root of a Tree aforesaid) and as for Rocks being not removed over the windy passage, they might be spar'd for the same reason that the ground in those places was; and both spar'd, because the disturbance hastens along to the Front, as a Stone to its Centre.

FINIS.